

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 1305.0

NOON 6 AUGUST 1979

DIGEST OF CURRENT ECONOMIC STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA JUNE 1979

INQUIRIES

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The Digest contains the latest available figures at the time of issue for a selection of monthly and quarterly series. Where possible, series are shown both in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

Seasonal adjustment

Measures of variability and details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting Bureau statistics are given in Appendixes D and C, respectively, of *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (1308.0). This annual publication also contains historical original and seasonally adjusted data in tabular and graphical form of a selection of the statistics appearing in the Bureau's monthly and quarterly publications.

As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in the Digest have been adjusted for the effects of calendar variations, namely, "trading-day" effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in a month) and the influence of movable holidays, e.g. Easter and Australia Day.

Most of the original and seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

Related publications

More detailed information is available in the *Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia* (1304.0). Publications from which the series in the Digest are derived are listed in *Table 1*.

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- r — figure or series revised since previous issue
- n.y.a. — not yet available.
- — (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures) break in continuity of series

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

PRODUCTION

Month	Black coal '000 tonnes		Iron ore (a) '000 tonnes		Lead (b) '000 tonnes		Electricity mil. kWh		Gas (c) mil. megajoules		Raw steel '000 tonnes		Cement '000 tonnes		Motor vehicles (d) '000		Electric motors under 720 W '000	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78																		
May	8,249	r6,963	19,257	32.2	7,676	7,275	23,768	22,514	706	670	432	411	r39.1	32.6	189	189		
June	6,116	r5,510		36.1	8,070	7,355	26,323	22,761	694	731	408	403	34.8	32.6	205	200		
1978-79																		
July	6,167	6,090		35.2	8,555	7,484	28,038	23,063	628	633	397	373	38.1	37.5	240	229		
August	6,998	7,219	21,692	40.6	8,386	7,461	26,776	23,145	551	548	438	423	31.0	27.6	246	209		
September	6,910	6,925		36.7	7,553	7,370	22,886	21,231	593	586	477	458	37.3	33.9	289	257		
October	7,884	7,016		35.6	7,398	7,397	22,622	21,724	660	617	436	411	40.8	35.6	267	231		
November	8,437	7,309	22,020	40.7	7,112	7,539	22,404	24,239	597	617	455	426	42.1	36.3	286	229		
December	4,996	6,315		25.5	6,886	7,487	19,795	23,298	664	636	407	416	32.0	39.6	238	252		
January	4,565	6,285		25.7	7,077	7,779	18,839	23,712	664	641	298	449	13.5	38.3	100	227		
February	7,242	7,045	22,214	34.4	6,820	7,710	18,892	22,763	596	643	429	442	38.1	38.6	219	238		
March	7,464	7,174		37.0	r7,426	r7,638	20,823	23,000	638	606	478	462	41.3	37.8	277	263		
April	5,709	6,807		32.1	r7,143	r7,705	r22,212	r23,834	665	718	389	392	29.9	32.5	r209	r254		
May	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	r8,263	r7,885	r25,076	r23,701	671	640	456	430	48.1	39.0	233	227		
June	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	8,240	7,535	26,787	23,246	637	666	457	456	42.7	42.6	230	232		

(a) Gross mine output, the manufacturer in a

Metallurgical contents of mine products. (c) Available for issue through mains includes natural gas. (d) Includes vehicles which are disposed of by

PRODUCTION - continued

STOCKS (c)

Month	Cotton woven cloth (excl. towelling) '000 sq m		Woolen and worsted woven cloth (excl. blanketing) '000 sq m		Man-made fibre-cloth '000 sq m		Meat '000 tonnes		Price Index Manufacturing Division (a)		Whole milk production all purposes mil. litres		Brokers and Dealers receipts of taxable wool		Book value at end of quarter \$m	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Total receipts tonnes	% of total received by brokers (b)	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78																
May	3,174	2,944	589	532	10,550	256	235	220.0			239	451	29,564	68.9	19,666	19,633
June	3,567	3,109	587	672	11,898	233	221	221.6			227	462	20,974	62.0		
1978-79																
July	3,983	3,890	606	646	11,024	224	219	223.3			309	482	28,849	71.1		
August	3,808	3,429	710	649	11,408	240	230	224.3			453	478	72,992	76.1	20,146	20,081
September	4,267	3,496	662	657	10,873	235	231	227.0			607	490	88,205	76.5		
October	3,871	3,556	825	754	12,324	259	243	229.7			753	483	107,519	78.0		
November	3,642	3,406	831	669	11,888	258	248	231.5			734	468	90,754	76.0	20,551	20,658
December	2,791	3,127	642	747	8,942	208	239	233.6			665	463	51,317	74.4		
January	1,228	2,991	345	615	4,207	215	236	237.0			579	462	37,315	74.2		
February	3,061	2,863	756	680	11,541	229	244	241.5			434	480	34,719	71.2	21,259	21,253
March	4,214	3,846	743	644	12,340	243	232	244.7			375	457	42,407	71.0		
April	2,766	3,298	545	621	10,126	199	218	248.9			289	454	32,229	73.9		
May	3,599	2,378	r662	r591	13,682	214	195	251.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	53,835	74.1	n.y.a.	n.y.a.
June	4,568	3,987	659	763	13,787	182	181	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.				

(a) This index is on a 'net division' basis and relates in concept only to articles which are produced in the Manufacturing Division of ASIC (Division C) for sale or transfer outside the Division or for use as capital equipment. (b) Members of the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia. (c) Owned by private enterprises in Australia. See publication 5630.0.

OVERSEAS TRANSACTIONS

Month	Total exports, value \$m		Total imports, value \$m		Value of merchandise at average 1974-75 prices (b)		Export price index		Balance on current account \$m	Net Apparent capital inflow \$m	Official reserve assets (c) \$m	
							All groups 1959-60=100	All groups excl. wool				
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Exports	Imports	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 - May	1,042	1,022	1,020	976	2,469	2,001	218	245	-310	271	3,182	3,139
June	1,126	1,048	988	999			222	249	-185	193	3,225	3,183
1978-79 - July	1,073	1,086	1,068	1,031	2,240	2,044	222	249	-333	319	3,293	3,238
August	1,032	993	1,135	1,033			226	254	-356	246	3,315	3,353
September	934	938	981	1,050	2,459	2,221	230	259	-300	219	3,274	3,300
October	1,134	1,145	1,194	1,152			232	261	-370	270	3,328	3,356
November	1,206	1,144	1,206	1,141	2,629	2,114	233	263	-219	286	3,226	3,250
December	1,088	1,148	1,034	1,157			238	269	-274	210	3,200	3,219
January	1,308	1,315	1,213	1,150	2,629	2,114	245	279	-200	93	3,377	3,411
February	1,127	1,172	1,051	1,124			253	287	-108	331	3,723	3,708
March	1,165	1,259	1,144	1,131	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	263	295	-282	164	3,600	3,602
April	1,243	1,256	1,120	1,235			270	304	-257	1350	3,677	3,620
May	1,485	1,436	1,139	1,254	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	274	311	-255	1318	3,824	3,783
June	1,410	1,342	1,291	1,354			n.y.a.	n.y.a.	-219	241	n.y.a.	n.y.a.

(a) From the end of June 1976 gold is valued at the average London gold price for the month converted to \$A at the market rate of exchange applying on the last day of the month. (b) Replaces estimates at average 1966-67 prices. See publication \$421.0.

INTERNAL TRADE

Month	Retail Sales (a)										Instalment credit for retail sales, finance companies and other business balances outstanding (e) \$m	
	All items except motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (b) \$m		Food & drink (b) \$m		Clothing, hardware, electrical and furniture (b) \$m		Other (b)(c) \$m		New motor cars and station wagons registered '000		Other new motor vehicles registered (d) '000	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 - May	2,108	2,045	2,826	2,910	2,158	2,137	997	1,062	40.3	36.1	12.8	11.2
June	1,974	2,036							38.1	36.9	13.4	11.8
1978-79 - July	1,939	2,062	2,940	3,011	2,064	2,128	1,045	1,093	38.2	37.7	12.2	11.4
August	2,050	2,085							44.5	40.4	10.9	10.3
September	2,059	2,115	3,331	3,106	2,530	2,170	1,345	1,146	41.6	43.0	9.8	10.3
October	2,091	2,124							38.8	39.0	9.9	9.9
November	2,224	2,114	3,168	3,207	1,944	2,248	1,071	1,129	39.1	37.4	9.9	9.5
December	2,891	2,184							35.2	38.6	8.6	9.4
January	2,038	2,182	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	31.0	35.1	7.7	8.9
February	1,945	2,203							35.4	38.8	9.4	10.7
March	2,174	2,217	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	39.0	37.1	9.5	9.3
April	2,076	2,206							36.4	37.3	8.7	9.3
May	2,324	2,247	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	45.4	40.3	10.7	9.5
June	2,138	2,221							39.8	39.6	9.9	8.9

(a) Based on the 1973-74 census of retail establishments. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Other: excludes motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (d) Comprises light commercial type vehicles, trucks, other truck type vehicles and buses. (e) At end of month, amounts financed to new agreements made were: January \$m139, February \$m135, March \$m148, April \$m136.

WAGES, FACTORY OVERTIME AND RETAIL PRICES

Consumer price index, six capitals, 1966-67 = 100.0 unless otherwise noted (a)

Month	Average weekly earnings per employed male unit \$		Weekly wage rates index, adult males; (c) 1954 = 100	Factory overtime (b) at larger private factories hours		Consumer price index, six capitals, 1966-67 = 100.0 unless otherwise noted (a)								
	Original	Seas. adj.		Original	Seas. adj.	All groups	Food (d)	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Transportation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care (e)	Recreation (f)
1977-78 May	216.30	215.50	536.3	2.4	2.3	247.7	229.0	265.6	281.7	218.3	245.9	242.8	337.3	116.0
June			543.5	2.5	2.6		232.7							
1978-79 July			543.6	2.5	2.6		234.9							
August	218.90	221.40	543.7	2.4	2.5	252.5	236.0	269.0	285.2	221.1	251.2	245.3	350.2	117.6
September			547.2	2.7	2.7		238.8							
October			547.2	2.8	2.7		242.6							
November	228.20	222.00	547.4	3.1	2.9	258.2	244.0	274.8	290.5	224.2	251.7	287.5	281.9	119.5
December			569.4	3.0	3.0		245.3							
January			569.7	2.4	3.1		250.1							
February	223.10	231.40	569.8	3.0	2.9	262.6	251.9	276.6	294.3	227.8	265.8	286.5	285.4	121.7
March			570.1	3.1	2.9		251.9							
April			570.2	2.8	3.0		259.6							
May	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	570.4	3.0	2.9	269.6	263.3	284.8	299.9	230.5	274.1	290.4	289.3	124.0
June			n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.		267.4							

(a) The composition of the group structure of the index has been altered with the introduction, from December quarter 1976, of the ninth Consumer Price Index series. (b) Source : Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. Average hours worked in survey week. (c) Weighted average. Excludes rural. (d) Quarterly series may be derived by averaging the three monthly figures. However, in some cases quarterly index numbers so derived differ slightly from the quarterly figure as published in Consumer Price Index bulletins due to rounding. (e) Base December quarter 1968 = 100.0. (f) Base September quarter 1976 = 100.0.

BUILDING, ETC.

Month	Building approvals \$m		Building approvals dwellings '000 units		Government building approved \$m		Building commenced total \$m		Dwellings commenced '000 units		Price indexes (a)		New capital expenditure by private enterprises						
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Materials used in house building		Materials used in other than house building		Buildings and structures \$m		Other capital equipment \$m	
												Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		
1977-78	May	562.3	482.9	11.1	9.7	113.7	1,661.5	1,580.5	30.5	29.5	257.6	255.7	517.1	498.3	1,548.1	1,442.9			
	June	585.5	504.7	11.0	9.9	170.9					258.5	257.8							
1978-79	July	468.6	451.8	9.4	9.3	81.3					259.0	258.5							
	August	573.1	589.9	10.4	9.9	120.1	1,672.9	1,599.7	29.1	27.6	260.2	259.4	523.3	511.8	1,453.7	1,471.0			
	September	522.8	522.8	9.9	9.9	72.1					260.9	259.9							
	October	582.5	545.4	11.1	10.6	105.7					262.0	260.9							
	November	580.2	553.8	11.4	10.6	108.9	1,582.1	1,679.1	26.8	28.5	263.0	262.5	660.5	586.9	1,665.8	1,568.1			
	December	460.1	516.1	9.8	11.1	70.6					264.6	264.4							
	January	439.1	531.8	8.1	10.3	104.4					266.9	268.3							
	February	560.8	664.3	9.8	11.0	114.8	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	30.6	31.5	270.9	273.4	466.9	572.6	1,395.7	1,595.5			
	March	582.4	575.8	11.9	11.1	108.0					273.7	275.0							
	April	507.2	527.3	10.2	11.0	81.9					277.2	277.3							
	May	667.5	582.8	13.6	11.9	115.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	278.7	278.6	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.			
	June	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.					280.2	279.3							

(a) Weighted average six State capital cities. 1966-67 = 100.0.

FINANCE

Month	Savings banks - Depositors' Balances (a) \$m		Major Trading Banks (b)				Finance companies balances outstanding (c) \$m	Housing finance for owner occupation - value of loans approved (d)			Commonwealth bond yield short dated (f) per cent	Listed companies new money raised \$m	Taxation revenue Commonwealth and State consolidated revenue funds \$m		
			Deposits \$m		Advances \$m			Banks \$m	Permanent building societies \$m	Other lenders (e) \$m			Original	Original	Seas. adj.
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original				Original				
1977-78	May	17,650	17,931	17,890	18,091	13,757	13,580	15,369	307	150	95	8.82	389.6	3,672	1,982
	June	18,046	18,081	17,593	18,292	13,626	13,534	15,319	253	140	83	8.83		2,321	2,007
1978-79	July	18,222	18,262	17,637	18,444	13,685	13,567	15,635	256	149	80	8.83	407.7	1,648	2,131
	August	18,381	18,361	18,255	18,856	13,962	13,953	15,665	303	170	89	8.79		2,113	2,066
	September	18,537	18,395	18,600	19,108	14,116	14,133	15,847	290	164	80	8.79	500.4	1,633	2,161
	October	18,636	18,417	18,952	19,176	14,516	14,278	15,988	300	177	93	8.69		1,658	1,958
	November	18,677	18,543	19,232	19,189	14,488	14,426	16,244	342	195	105	8.66	149.5	2,396	2,241
	December	18,870	18,747	19,601	19,335	14,683	14,680	16,469	246	164	79	8.67		1,776	2,280
	January	19,056	18,996	20,046	19,312	14,537	14,624	16,490	334	172	80	8.72	n.y.a.	2,115	2,274
	February	19,278	19,161	20,461	19,645	14,479	14,889	16,554	318	204	68	8.77		2,347	2,384
	March	19,340	19,463	20,852	20,023	14,651	14,963	16,650	316	216	97	9.00	n.y.a.	2,227	2,383
	April	19,229	19,558	20,653	20,093	15,134	15,045	16,751	276	176	87	9.61		3,340	2,425
	May	19,462	19,758	19,905	20,132	15,218	15,024	n.y.a.	355	183	n.y.a.	9.70	n.y.a.	3,233	n.y.a.
	June	19,833	19,885	19,603	20,372	15,203	15,105	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.		n.y.a.	n.y.a.

(a) Excludes external territories. (b) Includes external territories. (c) Amounts shown relate to all types of finance agreements and provide a broad overall measure of finance company activity. For further details see the monthly publication *Finance Companies* (5614 0). (d) Includes loans for alterations and additions. (e) Includes Terminating Building Societies, Finance companies, Credit Unions, Insurance companies and Government Instrumentalities. (f) This series was previously based on rebate bonds which were issued prior to 1 November 1968. Income on these bonds was subject to income tax at current rates less a rebate of 10 cents in each dollar of Australian Government loan interest included in taxable income. The series is now based on non-rebate bonds.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Quarter		Gross domestic product		Gross farm product		Gross non-farm product		Final consumption expenditure				Gross fixed capital expenditure				
		\$m		\$m		\$m		Private \$m		Government \$m		Private \$m		Public \$m		
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	
AT CURRENT PRICES																
1977-78	December	24,204	22,257	1,724	1,011	22,480	21,246	14,118	13,367	3,833	3,692	3,348	3,176	2,021	1,931	
	March	21,776	22,948	905	1,018	20,871	21,930	13,028	13,673	3,615	3,861	2,924	3,244	1,783	2,067	
	June	22,650	23,479	588	1,053	22,062	22,426	14,193	14,192	4,039	3,905	3,632	3,473	2,254	1,921	
1978-79	September	23,995	24,517	995	1,452	23,000	23,065	14,105	14,519	4,070	4,103	3,507	3,517	1,618	1,969	
	December	27,265	25,089	2,318	1,558	24,947	23,531	15,704	14,903	4,234	4,081	3,961	3,746	2,069	1,978	
	March	25,374	26,170	2,160	1,707	25,214	24,463	14,764	15,466	3,939	4,208	3,451	3,833	1,772	2,067	
AT AVERAGE 1974-75 PRICES																
1977-78	December	18,120	16,368	1,782	950	16,338	15,418	10,122	9,610	2,779	2,705	2,371	2,267	1,446	1,388	
	March	15,690	16,639	804	947	14,886	15,692	9,189	9,640	2,621	2,767	2,039	2,256	1,254	1,466	
	June	15,792	16,639	387	934	15,405	15,705	9,822	9,804	2,881	2,789	2,486	2,370	1,572	1,324	
1978-79	September	16,604	17,096	721	1,259	15,883	15,837	9,755	9,825	2,850	2,873	2,361	2,359	1,254	1,362	
	December	19,101	17,319	2,086	1,280	17,015	16,039	10,340	9,839	2,944	2,864	2,619	2,498	1,408	1,351	
	March	17,297	17,573	1,828	1,246	15,469	16,327	9,502	9,960	2,655	2,804	2,239	2,480	1,170	1,374	
AT CURRENT PRICES continued																
Quarter		Imports of goods and services \$m		Exports of goods and services \$m		Gross operating surplus of trading enterprises				Wages, salaries and supplements \$m		Income of farm unincorporated enterprises \$m		Other household income \$m	Less direct taxes, etc. (a) \$m	Household disposable income \$m
						Companies		Other \$m								
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original
1977-78	December	3,375	3,463	3,638	3,485	3,014	2,574	5,641	4,545	13,184	12,739	1,172	19,499	2,934	17,736	
	March	3,629	3,630	3,280	3,404	2,288	2,764	4,347	4,710	12,670	13,049	439	18,453	3,452	15,439	
	June	3,800	3,791	3,592	3,562	2,715	2,691	4,055	4,934	13,170	13,275	111	19,980	5,202	14,889	
1978-79	September	4,059	3,961	3,538	3,594	2,770	2,785	5,126	5,326	13,480	13,639	501	19,943	2,803	17,641	
	December	4,294	4,416	3,965	3,795	3,459	2,945	6,776	5,581	14,172	13,662	1,728	21,222	3,001	19,949	
	March	4,258	4,255	4,224	4,393	2,412	2,975	6,033	5,870	13,835	14,282	1,579	20,401	3,739	18,240	

(a) Direct taxes deducted are those paid or payable by persons to general government. These include income tax paid and estate and gift duties, all other direct taxes, fees for service of a regulatory character and fines and gifts paid. Also deducted here are consumer debt interest and transfers to overseas.

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) ('000)

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS ('000)

JOB VACANCIES ('000)

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS ('000)														JOB VACANCIES ('000)		
Month		Males		Females		Persons		Labour Force Survey (c)			Registered with CES (d) (for full-time work)	Unemployment benefit recipients (e)	Survey estimates (f)	Registered with CES (d)		
		Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work	Total						
1977-78	May	4,072.6	4,064.3	2,321.4	2,321.7	6,394.0	6,386.4	331.6	63.7	395.3	392.2	272.4 286.1	32.2	17.9 17.2		
	June	4,076.7		2,307.5		6,384.2		330.5	61.8	392.3	393.8					
1978-79	July	4,059.3		2,316.8		6,376.1		325.4	52.6	378.0	393.4	290.7 285.4 284.6 279.9 278.8 311.3 341.9 357.5 334.4 332.6 318.9	n.a.	18.3 18.1 19.2 20.7 19.3 18.0 24.9 24.9 21.4 18.2 18.3		
	August	4,053.8	4,077.7	2,311.5	2,329.5	6,365.3	6,410.8	332.6	63.1	395.7	388.6					
	September	4,059.0		2,310.5		6,369.6		324.8	59.7	384.5	382.7					
	October	4,067.7		2,311.5		6,374.1		305.9	61.6	367.5	380.2					
	November	4,052.4	4,063.2	2,314.6	2,307.4	6,367.0	6,369.5	308.8	60.9	369.7	399.2					
	December	4,065.3		2,373.5		6,438.7		373.8	67.4	441.2	451.5					
	January	4,119.3		2,266.8		6,386.1		391.1	55.0	446.2	493.5					
	February	4,135.4	4,108.8	2,337.5	2,326.9	6,472.9	6,432.4	381.7	72.3	453.9	481.7					
	March	4,127.4		2,359.2		6,486.6		353.5	71.4	425.0	447.7					
	April	4,124.6		2,348.5		6,473.1		346.4	70.4	416.8	437.0					
	May	4,118.9	4,110.0	2,321.0	2,315.7	6,439.9	6,426.7	335.1	61.4	396.6	424.6					
	June	4,115.6		2,331.3		6,446.9		323.6	65.8	389.3	n.y.a.					

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. The labour force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed. (b) Seasonally adjusted estimates available only for February, May, August and November. (c) Suspension of seasonally adjusted figures in this series as explained in *The Labour Force, November 1977* (6203.0). (d) Registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service at Friday nearest the end of the month. (e) For reference dates see *The Labour Force* (6203.0). (f) Results of sample surveys of government employers and private payroll taxpayers conducted by the ABS at the third Friday of the month shown. For further notes relating to these estimates see *Job Vacancies, May 1979* (6231.0).

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES (a) (b)

Month	Total civilian employees '000						Private/Government '000 persons				Principal industries '000 persons			
	Males		Females		Persons		Private		Government		Manufacturing		Wholesale and Retail Trade	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 April	2,956.6	2,948.2	1,767.1	1,763.9	4,723.1	4,712.1	3,225.2	3,220.9	1,497.9	1,491.2	1,130.9	1,128.6	964.0	963.9
May	2,951.9	2,942.5	1,768.0	1,766.1	4,719.9	4,708.6	3,221.4	3,217.8	1,498.5	1,490.8	1,127.7	1,126.5	964.2	963.6
June (c)	2,943.8	2,937.3	1,769.6	1,769.4	4,713.4	4,706.7	3,214.9	3,215.6	1,498.5	1,491.1	1,123.6	1,124.2	964.3	964.5
1978-79 July (c)	2,939.6	2,938.6	1,772.3	1,770.7	4,711.8	4,709.3	3,211.4	3,215.7	1,500.4	1,493.6	1,121.7	1,123.4	961.7	963.9
August	2,935.7	2,939.5	1,772.0	1,771.8	4,707.7	4,711.3	3,208.1	3,215.2	1,499.6	1,496.1	1,119.4	1,121.5	959.8	963.7
September (c)	2,934.9	2,942.3	1,774.5	1,772.8	4,709.4	4,715.1	3,210.9	3,216.2	1,498.5	1,498.9	1,120.2	1,121.5	961.9	964.8
October (c)	2,936.6	2,944.5	1,783.3	1,778.0	4,719.9	4,773.3	3,270.9	3,270.6	1,499.0	1,502.0	1,126.7	1,125.4	967.4	966.6
November (c)	2,946.9	2,950.2	1,795.7	1,785.4	4,742.7	4,735.6	3,242.0	3,230.5	1,500.7	1,505.1	1,131.9	1,129.0	975.8	968.7
December	2,950.4	2,954.7	1,792.0	1,794.7	4,742.4	4,749.6	3,247.6	3,240.2	1,494.8	1,509.3	1,127.3	1,130.9	984.3	973.5
January	2,947.1	2,955.6	1,774.3	1,797.3	4,721.4	4,752.9	3,228.4	3,244.7	1,492.9	1,508.2	1,125.5	1,131.3	970.3	975.0
February	2,959.3	2,956.4	1,793.8	1,798.4	4,753.1	4,754.8	3,248.4	3,250.6	1,504.7	1,504.2	1,136.8	1,134.2	975.9	976.4
March	2,967.6	2,960.1	1,805.2	1,802.6	4,772.7	4,762.9	3,263.0	3,257.7	1,509.8	1,505.2	1,143.0	1,137.9	975.7	977.5
April	2,966.0	2,958.0	1,807.8	1,803.5	4,773.7	4,761.5	3,261.5	3,251.1	1,512.2	1,505.4	1,138.5	1,136.1	977.7	977.5
May	2,971.6	2,962.2	1,812.3	1,809.2	4,783.9	4,771.4	3,270.3	3,265.5	1,513.5	1,505.6	1,140.8	1,139.6	980.3	979.8

(a) The estimates contained in this table are based on benchmarks established by analysing data from the 1971 population census and other relevant sources. Employees in agriculture and private domestic service, and defence forces, are excluded. (b) Seasonally adjusted estimates in this statement have been revised. For details of the methods used see *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1979* (1308.0). (c) Affected by industrial dispute.

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 1305.0

NOON 6 AUGUST 1979

DIGEST OF CURRENT ECONOMIC STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA JUNE 1979

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The Digest contains the latest available figures at the time of issue for a selection of monthly and quarterly series. Where possible, series are shown both in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

Seasonal adjustment

Measures of variability and details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting Bureau statistics are given in Appendixes D and C, respectively, of *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (1308.0). This annual publication also contains historical original and seasonally adjusted data in tabular and graphical form of a selection of the statistics appearing in the Bureau's monthly and quarterly publications.

As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in the Digest have been adjusted for the effects of calendar variations, namely, "trading-day" effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in a month) and the influence of movable holidays, e.g. Easter and Australia Day.

Most of the original and seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

Related publications

More detailed information is available in the *Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia* (1304.0). Publications from which the series in the Digest are derived are listed in page 8.

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- r — figure or series revised since previous issue
- n.y.a. — not yet available.
- (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures) break in continuity of series

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician